

6. (Four Times Amended) The composition according to Claim 43, wherein said nucleic acid molecule is an antisense RNA that binds to human osteonectin mRNA.

Please substitute the following claim 7 for currently pending claim 7.

7. (Thrice Amended) The composition according to Claim 43, wherein said nucleic acid molecule is conjugated to or administered in combination with a carrier molecule.

Please substitute the following claim 8 for currently pending claim 8.

8. (Twice Amended) The composition according to Claim 7, wherein said carrier molecule has a function selected from the group consisting of: increasing the solubility of the nucleic acid molecule, increasing the uptake into a cell of the nucleic acid molecule, slowing the breakdown of the nucleic acid molecule, preventing the breakdown of the nucleic acid molecule, and facilitating the manufacture of the nucleic acid molecule.

Please substitute the following claim 15 for currently pending claim 15.

15. (Thrice Amended) The method according to Claim 39, wherein said nucleic acid molecule is an antisense RNA complimentary to human osteonectin mRNA.

Please substitute the following claim 16 for currently pending claim 16.

16. (Thrice Amended) The method according to Claim 15, wherein said inhibitor is conjugated to or administered in combination with a carrier molecule.

Please substitute the following claim 17 for currently pending claim 17.

17. (Twice Amended) The method according to Claim 16, wherein said carrier molecule has a function selected from the group consisting of: increasing the solubility of the nucleic acid molecule, increasing the uptake into a cell of the nucleic acid molecule, slowing the breakdown of the nucleic acid molecule, preventing the breakdown of the nucleic acid molecule, and facilitating the manufacture of the nucleic acid molecule.

Please substitute the following claim 37 for currently pending claim 37.

37. (Amended) The composition of Claim 43, wherein said composition is a pharmaceutical composition.

Please add the following new claims 39-55.

39. (New) A method of treating a tumour in a human, comprising administering to cells of said tumour a nucleic acid molecule comprising a sequence that binds to a polynucleotide comprising SEQ ID NO:1 or a corresponding RNA sequence, wherein said nucleic acid molecule has the function of preventing or decreasing expression of human osteonectin.

40. (New) The method of Claim 39, wherein said nucleic acid molecule is administered via direct injection to the tumour.

41. (New) The method of Claim 39, wherein said nucleic acid molecule is administered *in vitro* to tumour cells taken from said human, and further comprising

reintroducing into said human said tumour cells to which said nucleic acid molecule has been administered.

42. (New) The method of Claim 39, wherein said tumour is a melanoma.

43. (New) A composition comprising a nucleic acid molecule comprising a sequence that binds to a polynucleotide comprising SEQ ID NO:1 or a corresponding RNA sequence, wherein said nucleic acid has the function of preventing or decreasing expression in a cell of human osteonectin; and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.

44. (New) A method of treating a tumour that overexpresses osteonectin, comprising transfecting one or more cells of said tumour with a nucleic acid molecule comprising a sequence that binds to a polynucleotide comprising SEQ ID NO:1 or a corresponding RNA sequence, wherein said nucleic acid molecule has the function of preventing or decreasing expression of osteonectin in said tumour cell.

45. (New) The method of Claim 44, wherein the nucleic acid molecule is an antisense molecule.

47. (New) The method of Claim 44, wherein the nucleic acid molecule is an RNA molecule.

48. (New) The method of Claim 44, wherein the nucleic acid molecule is a DNA molecule.

49. (New) The method of Claim 44, wherein the nucleic acid molecule is a ribozyme.

50. (New) A method of killing a first tumour cell in an animal comprising exposing the first tumour cell to a second tumour cell, which second tumour cell has been transfected with a nucleic acid molecule comprising a sequence that binds to a polynucleotide comprising SEQ ID NO:1 or a corresponding RNA sequence, wherein said nucleic acid molecule has the function of preventing or decreasing expression of osteonectin in said second tumour cell.

51. (New) A method of Claim 50, wherein said second tumour cell is removed from the animal prior to being transfected with said nucleic acid molecule.

52. (New) A method of inducing PMNL mediated killing of tumour cells in a human, comprising transfecting one or more of said tumour cells with a nucleic acid molecule comprising a sequence that binds to a polynucleotide comprising SEQ ID NO:1 or a corresponding RNA sequence, wherein said nucleic acid molecule has the function of preventing or decreasing expression of osteonectin in said tumour cell.

53. (New) The method of Claim 52, wherein said nucleic acid molecule is administered via direct injection to the tumour.

54. (New) The method of Claim 52, wherein said nucleic acid molecule is administered *in vitro* to tumour cells taken from said human, and further comprising

reintroducing into said human said tumour cells to which said nucleic acid molecule has been administered.

55. (New) A viral vector capable of transferring genetic material into a human cell, wherein said vector expresses a nucleic acid molecule comprising a sequence that binds to a polynucleotide comprising SEQ ID NO:1 or a corresponding RNA sequence, wherein said nucleic acid molecule has the function of preventing or decreasing expression of osteonectin in said tumour cell.